
By: **Senator Bromwell**

Introduced and read first time: March 6, 1998

Rule 32 suspended

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Creation of a State Debt - The Maryland School for the Blind**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of
4 \$300,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to The Maryland School for the
5 Blind for certain acquisition, development, or improvement purposes; providing
6 for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee
7 provide and expend a matching fund; requiring the grantee to grant and convey
8 to the Maryland Historical Trust a certain kind of easement; and providing
9 generally for the issuance and sale of bonds evidencing the loan.

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 MARYLAND, That:

12 (1) The Board of Public Works may borrow money and incur indebtedness on
13 behalf of the State of Maryland through a State loan to be known as The Maryland
14 School for the Blind Loan of 1998 in the total principal amount of \$300,000. This loan
15 shall be evidenced by the issuance, sale, and delivery of State general obligation
16 bonds authorized by a resolution of the Board of Public Works and issued, sold, and
17 delivered in accordance with §§ 8-117 through 8-124 of the State Finance and
18 Procurement Article and Article 31, § 22 of the Code.

19 (2) The bonds to evidence this loan or installments of this loan may be sold as
20 a single issue or may be consolidated and sold as part of a single issue of bonds under
21 § 8-122 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

22 (3) The cash proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be paid to the Treasurer
23 and first shall be applied to the payment of the expenses of issuing, selling, and
24 delivering the bonds, unless funds for this purpose are otherwise provided, and then
25 shall be credited on the books of the Comptroller and expended, on approval by the
26 Board of Public Works, for the following public purposes, including any applicable
27 architects' and engineers' fees: as a grant to The Maryland School for the Blind
28 (referred to hereafter in this Act as "the grantee") for the provision and installation of
29 capital equipment, including the upgrading of the fire alarm system for compliance
30 with requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the installation to include
31 all necessary associated repairs and renovations.

1 (4) An annual State tax is imposed on all assessable property in the State in
2 rate and amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the bonds, as and
3 when due and until paid in full. The principal shall be discharged within 15 years
4 after the date of issuance of the bonds.

5 (5) Prior to the payment of any funds under the provisions of this Act for the
6 purposes set forth in Section 1(3) above, the grantee shall provide and expend a
7 matching fund of \$100,000. No part of the grantee's matching fund may be provided,
8 either directly or indirectly, from funds of the State, whether appropriated or
9 unappropriated. No part of the fund may consist of real property, in kind
10 contributions, or funds expended prior to the effective date of this Act. In case of any
11 dispute as to the amount of the matching fund or what money or assets may qualify
12 as matching funds, the Board of Public Works shall determine the matter and the
13 Board's decision is final. The grantee has until June 1, 2000, to present evidence
14 satisfactory to the Board of Public Works that a matching fund will be provided. If
15 satisfactory evidence is presented, the Board shall certify this fact to the State
16 Treasurer, and the proceeds of the loan shall be expended for the purposes provided in
17 this Act.

18 (6) (a) Prior to the issuance of the bonds, the grantee shall grant and convey
19 to the Maryland Historical Trust a perpetual preservation easement to the extent of
20 its interest:

21 (i) On the land or such portion of the land acceptable to the Trust;
22 and

23 (ii) On the exterior and interior, where appropriate, of the historic
24 structures.

25 (b) The easement must be in form and substance acceptable to the Trust
26 and the extent of the interest to be encumbered must be acceptable to the Trust.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
28 June 1, 1998.